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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-16 (canceled)

17. (new) A child monitoring, communication and locating system for use with an electronic apparatus, the electronic apparatus having a wire defining a periphery of a containment area and a generator to apply an electronic signal to the wire, the wire emitting a first radio frequency signal, said system comprising:

a control unit comprising:

a control unit microcontroller, said control unit microcontroller being programmable with at least one system input data; and

a control unit transceiver;

at least one child module to be carried by a child, said child module comprising:

a child module microcontroller;

a wire detector for detecting a first radio frequency signal from the wire and for generating wire detection signals in response to the detection of a wire when said wire detector is a predetermined distance from the wire; and

a child module transceiver for electronically connecting said wire detector to said control unit transceiver, said child module microcontroller being programmable with a system input data code corresponding to the system input data programmed into said control unit for establishing a unique radio frequency channel between said child module transceiver and said control unit;

said child module transceiver transmitting an alarm signal on said unique frequency channel to said control unit transceiver in response to said wire detector being a predetermined distance from the wire defining the perimeter of a containment area, said control unit transceiver generating a responsive alarm in response to receiving said alarm signal.

18. (new) A system according to claim 17 wherein said wire detector generates wire detection signals in response to detecting a first radio frequency signal in the wire exceeding a first predetermined minimum magnitude.

19. (new) A system according to claim 17 wherein said control unit has a display panel, and said responsive alarm is visible on said display panel.

20. (new) A system according to claim 17 wherein said child module transceiver generates an alarm for recognition by the child carrying said child module when said child module transceiver transmits an alarm signal.

21. (new) A system according to claim 17 wherein said child module transceiver generates monitoring signals, and said control unit comprises a directional and distance locating system for finding the strongest of said monitoring signals to determine the direction and distance to said child for locating said child module.

22. (new) A system according to claim 17 wherein said at least one child module further comprises a motion detector for generating a motion-stationary electronic signal in response to a lack of motion of said at least one child module for a predetermined period of time, and said child module transceiver transmitting said motion-stationary electronic signal from said child module to said control unit transceiver, said control unit transceiver emitting an alarm in response to receiving said motion-stationary electronic signal.

23. (new) A system according to claim 17 and further including an audio system, said audio system comprising:

a child module audio input in said child module transceiver for transmitting audio signals from said child module;

a control unit audio input in said control unit transceiver for transmitting audio signals from said control unit;

a control unit audio output at said control unit for receiving said audio signals from said child module; and

a child module audio output at each child module for receiving said audio signals from said control unit.

24. (new) A system according to claim 23 wherein each of said audio inputs comprises a microphone, and said audio signals are voice signals.

25. (new) A system according to claim 17 wherein:

said child module transceiver comprises an audio input having a microphone for transmitting voice message signals from said child module and an audio output having a speaker for emitting voice messages in response to voice message signals from said control unit transceiver; and

said control unit transceiver comprises an audio input having a microphone for transmitting voice message signals from said control unit and an audio output having a speaker for emitting voice messages in response to voice message signals from said child module transceiver.

26. (new) A system according to claim 25 wherein said at least one child module is at least two child modules, and wherein said system further comprises an activation device

having an on mode for activating said microphone audio input of said control unit transceiver and said speaker of said child module transceivers for enabling the transmission of voice signals from said control unit to a plurality of said child modules, said activation device having an off mode for deactivating said microphone audio input of said control unit transceiver.

27. (new) A system according to claim 17 and further including a repeater, said repeater comprising:

- a repeater microcontroller;
- a power supply for said repeater microcontroller; and
- a repeater radio frequency link operatively connected to said child module transceiver for extending the range of said child module transceiver on said unique frequency channel.

28. (new) A system according to claim 17 wherein said control unit comprises:

- a power supply for said control unit microprocessor; and
- a control unit radio frequency link operatively connected to said control unit microcontroller and comprising said control unit transceiver;

said control unit microcontroller effecting the generation of a responsive alarm signal by said control unit transceiver in response to the reception by said control unit transceiver of an alarm signal from said child module alarm.

29. (new) A system according to claim 18 wherein said first responsive alarm is an audible alarm having a first switch, and said second responsive alarm is an audible alarm having a second pitch different from the first pitch.

30. (new) A system according to claim 17 and further including an auxiliary power unit for extending the detection range of said at least one child module, said auxiliary power unit comprising:

an auxiliary power unit microcontroller;
a power supply for said auxiliary power link; and
an auxiliary power unit frequency link operatively connected to said auxiliary power microcontroller and comprising an auxiliary power unit transceiver;
said auxiliary power unit transceiver receiving alarm signals from said at least one child module on said unique frequency and extending the transmission of said alarm signals on said unique frequency.

31. (new) A child monitoring, communication and locating system for use with an electronic apparatus, the electronic apparatus having a wire defining a periphery of a containment area and a generator to apply an electronic signal to the wire, the wire emitting a first radio frequency signal, said system comprising:

a control unit comprising:

a control unit microcontroller, said control unit microcontroller being programmable with at least one system input data; and

a control unit transceiver;

at least one child module to be carried by a child, said child module comprising:

a child module microcontroller;

a wire detector for detecting a first radio frequency signal from the wire and for generating a first wire detection signal in response to detecting a first predetermined distance from the wire and for generating a second wire detection signal in response to detecting a second predetermined distance from the wire;

a child module transceiver for electronically connecting said wire detector to said control unit transceiver, said child module microcontroller being programmable with a

system input data corresponding to the system input data programmed into said control unit for establishing a unique radio frequency channel between said child module transceiver and said control unit transceiver;

said child module transmitting a first alarm signal on said unique frequency channel to said control unit transceiver in response to the first wire detection signal, said control unit transceiver generating a first responsive alarm in response to receiving said first alarm signal, and said child module transmitting a second alarm signal on said unique frequency channel to said control unit transceiver in response to the second wire detection signal, said control unit transceiver generating a second responsive alarm in response to receiving said second alarm signal.

32. (new) A system according to claim 31 wherein said first responsive alarm is an audible alarm having a first pitch, and said second responsive alarm is an audible alarm having a second pitch different from the first pitch.

33. (new) A child monitoring, communication and locating system for use with an electronic apparatus, the electronic apparatus having a wire defining a periphery of a containment area and a generator to apply an electronic signal to the wire, the wire emitting a first radio frequency signal, said system comprising:

a control unit comprising:

a control unit microcontroller, said control unit microcontroller being programmable with at least one system input data; and

a control unit transceiver;

at least one child module to be carried by a child, said child module comprising:

a child module microcontroller;

a wire detector for detecting a first radio frequency signal from the wire and for generating a first wire detection signal in response to detecting a first predetermined distance from the wire and for generating a second wire detection signal in response to detecting said child module crossing the wire;

a child module transceiver for electronically connecting said wire detector to said control unit transceiver, said child module microcontroller being programmable with a system input data corresponding to the system input data programmed into said control unit for establishing a unique radio frequency channel between said child module transceiver and said control unit transceiver;

said child module transmitting a first alarm signal on said unique frequency channel to said control unit transceiver in response to the first wire detection signal, said control unit transceiver generating a first responsive alarm in response to receiving said first alarm signal, and said child module transmitting a second alarm signal on said unique frequency to said control unit transceiver in response to the second wire detection signal, said control unit transceiver generating a second responsive alarm in response to receiving said second alarm signal.

34. (new) A child monitoring, communication and locating system, said system comprising:

a control unit comprising:

a control unit microcontroller, said control unit microcontroller being programmable with at least one system input data; and

a control unit transceiver;

at least one child module to be carried by a child, said child module comprising:

a child module microcontroller;

a child module transceiver being electronically connectible with said control unit transceiver for exchanging electronic signals with said control unit transceiver;

said child monitoring, communication and locating system further comprising:

a motion detector system for generating a motion-stationary electronic signal in response to lack of motion of said child module for a predetermined period of time, and said child module transceiver transmitting said motion-stationary electronic signal from said child module to said control unit transceiver, said control unit transceiver emitting an alarm in response to receiving said motion stationary electronic signal;

an audio communication system, said audio communication system comprising:

a child module audio input in said child module transceiver for transmitting audio signals from said child module;

a control unit audio input in said control unit transceiver for transmitting audio signals from said control unit;

a control unit audio output at said control unit for receiving said audio signals from said child module audio input and for emitting output signals; and

a child module audio output at said child module for receiving said audio signals from said control unit audio input and for emitting output signals;

a directional and distance locating system comprising:

a monitoring signal output in said child module transceiver for transmitting monitoring signals; and

a movable directional and distance locating signal input in said control unit for moving to receive the maximum strength of said monitoring signals to determine the direction of the child module and distance of the child module according to the strength of the monitoring signals; and

a monitoring system for determining if a child module is within a predetermined distance from said control unit, said monitoring system comprising:

said monitoring signal output in said child module transceiver for transmitting monitoring signals; and

said control unit transceiver for receiving the monitoring signals and generating an alarm if said monitoring signals fall below a predetermined value.

35. (new) A child monitoring, communication and locating system, said system comprising:

a control unit comprising:

a control unit microcontroller, said control unit microcontroller being programmable with at least one system input data; and

a control unit transceiver;

at least one child module to be carried by a child, said child module comprising:

a child module microcontroller;

a child module transceiver being electronically connectible with said control unit transceiver for exchanging electronic signals with said control unit transceiver;

said child monitoring, communication and locating system further comprising:

a motion detector system for generating a motion-stationary electronic signal in response to lack of motion of said child module for a predetermined period of time, and said child module transceiver transmitting said motion-stationary electronic signal from said child module to said control unit transceiver, said control unit transceiver emitting an alarm in response to receiving said motion stationary electronic signal;

an audio communication system, said audio communication system comprising:

a child module audio input in said child module transceiver for transmitting audio signals from said child module;

a control unit audio input in said control unit transceiver for transmitting audio signals from said control unit;

a control unit audio output at said control unit for receiving said audio signals from said child module; and

a child module audio output at said child module for receiving said audio signals from said control unit;

a directional and distance locating system comprising:

a monitoring signal output in said child module transceiver for transmitting monitoring signals; and

a movable directional and distance locating signal input in said control unit for moving to receive the maximum strength of said monitoring signals to determine the direction and distance of the child module according to the strength of the monitoring signals; and

a wire detection system for detecting a wire defining the perimeter of a containment area, the wire having an electronic signal generated and applied to the wire and emitting a wire radio frequency signal, said wire detection system comprising:

a wire detector for detecting the wire radio frequency signal and for generating wire detector signals in response to the detection of a wire;

said child module transceiver being electronically connected to said wire detector for transmitting signals corresponding to said wire detection signals to said control unit transceiver, said control unit transceiver generating an alarm signal when said signals corresponding to said wire detection signals exceeds a predetermined minimum.

36. (new) A child monitoring, communication and locating system, said system comprising:

a control unit comprising:

a control unit microcontroller being programmable with at least one system input data; and

a control unit transceiver;

at least one child module to be carried by a child, said child module comprising:

a child module microcontroller being programmable with a system input data corresponding to the at least one system input data programmed into said control unit microcontroller for establishing a unique radio frequency channel between said child module transceiver and said control unit;

a child module transceiver being electronically connectible with said control unit transceiver for exchanging electronic signals with said control unit transceiver;
said child monitoring, communication and locating system further comprising:

a motion detector system for generating a motion-stationary electronic signal in response to lack of motion of said child module for a predetermined period of time, and said child module transceiver transmitting said motion-stationary electronic signal from said child module to said control unit transceiver, said control unit transceiver emitting an alarm in response to receiving said motion-stationary electronic signal;

an audio communication system, said audio communication system comprising:

a child module audio input in said child module transceiver for transmitting audio signals from said child module;

a control unit audio input in said control unit transceiver for transmitting audio signals from said control unit;

a control unit audio output at said control unit for receiving said audio signals from said child module; and

a child module audio output at said child module for receiving said audio signals from said control unit;

a directional and distance locating system comprising:

a monitoring signal output in said child module transceiver for transmitting monitoring signals; and

a movable directional and distance locating signal input in said control unit for moving to receive the maximum strength of said monitoring signals to determine the direction and distance of the child module according to the strength of the monitoring signals; and

a wire detection system for use with an electronic apparatus, the electronic apparatus having a wire defining a periphery of a containment area and a generator to apply an electronic signal to the wire, the wire emitting a first radio frequency signal, said wire detection system comprising:

a wire detector for detecting a first radio frequency signal from the wire when said wire is a predetermined distance from the wire and for generating wire detection signals in response to the detection of a wire;

said child module transceiver electronically connecting said wire detector to said control unit transceiver, and said child module transmitting an alarm signal on said unique frequency channel to said control unit transceiver in response to said wire detector being a predetermined distance from the wire defining the periphery of the containment area, said control unit transceiver generating a responsive alarm in response to receiving said alarm signal.

37. (new) A system according to claim 36 wherein said wire detector generates wire detection signals in response to detecting a first radio frequency signal in the wire exceeding a first predetermined minimum magnitude.

38. (new) A system according to claim 36 wherein said child module further includes a panic switch electronically connected to said child module microcontroller for actuation by the child carrying said child module for generating a signal at said control unit for requesting a guardian at the control unit to transmit an audio signal from said control unit audio input to said child module audio output.

39. (new) A system according to claim 36 wherein said control unit comprises a resetting structure for resetting said control unit after the emission of an alarm by said control unit.

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